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## Articles

### Synonymy and Contextual Disambiguation of Words

**Eric Foxley and Godwin M. Gwei**

Computer Science Department, Nottingham University Nottingham, UK

Synonymy occurs when several different words can represent similar meanings. Ambiguity occurs when a single word in a given context may have several different meanings. This paper describes computer developments which provide tools to assist in both of these situations, and from which computer tools can be developed to assist the authoring of text, and the writing of interactive computer systems.

In text authoring, we may wish to vary our vocabulary by the use of synonyms to arouse the interest of the reader, or to add emphasis to a topic; and we will generally wish to avoid ambiguity by the choice of nonpolysemous words, or by the addition of enough context clues to resolve the ambiguity.

In interactions with computers, the aspects of input and output are distinct. Where the user gives input to the computer, it should be able to recognise the user's vocabulary, and accept freely generated citations representing the information required. Any ambiguous construction entered by the user should be queried. When giving output to the user, the computer may either use synonyms to make the conversation more varied, or may use only one from any group of synonyms to encourage the user into a more restricted vocabulary; and computer output should be chosen to be non-ambiguous.

The paper describes the development of a suite of computer programs to determine and reduce

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ambiguity in text, and to enable the computer to correctly relate a variety of synonyms to a single concept.

**Key Words:** Ambiguity • Concept • Natural language • Polysemy • Roget • Synonymy • Thesaurus

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### **Method and system for computing semantic logical forms from syntax ...**

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## **Synonymy and Contextual Disambiguation of Words**

forms **prefix** and suffix manipulation only on the first and the last word of a. phrase respectively. This results in the **omission** of some potentially ...  
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subtype **attribute**. Our system **parses** text into phrases and assigns each phrase a class ..... We also use **prefix** matching and term **cooccurrence**. ...

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**prefix.** affix that is joined before a root or stem. .... for querying the corpus are based on

Perl regular **expressions** and allow to check **co-occurrence** ...

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... stemmer Errors of commission Errors of **omission** organization/organ ... was also largely met, but **complete** success was ... to the fact that the **dictionary** is incomplete ...  
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... 104 5.2.2 Predicates for **Parse Tree Node Identification** . . . . . datatypes • **expressions** • statements ... See [4], p. 32 for a **complete** specification. ...  
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CG von Wangenheim, A Bortolon, A von Wangenheim - Case-Based Reasoning Research and Development: 4th ..., 2001 - [books.google.com](#)  
... gives context sensitivity to the **parsing** of phrases ... specific vocabulary, which defines indicative **expressions** for a ... correctly responded by the **complete** system. ...  
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... of our sins of commission and **omission**, for which ... include this use in a general **dictionary**, by comparing ... as inter -rupt enable, compile time, **document** view and ...  
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M Young-Lai, FWM Tompa - Machine Learning, 2000 - Springer

... Figure 3. The two **parse** trees. ... See the book by Fu (1982) for a more formal and **complete**

description of SFAs and their properties ... is greater than the **expression** ...

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... a variety of rhetorical processes and means of **expression**. ... ments does not require a **complete** understanding of ... of the design of a shallow **parser** and evaluates ...

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... of text and compile a searchable **dictionary** of acronyms ... a lexical analyzer, and yacc, a **parser**, to process ... in Table 1. This row uses a pseudo-regular-**expression** ...

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**Context based system for accessing dictionary entries** - all 2 versions »

Y Schabes, AR Golding, E Roche - US Patent 5,845,306, 1998 - Google Patents

... who are forced to provide written **documents** in a ... In summary, a context-based **dictionary**

entry access sys -tem ... 1 is a block diagram of a **complete** grammar check ...

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L8	591	complet\$3 with (input or entry or expression or string) same (quantity or number or amount or weight or size or price or measur\$5 or numerical) and extract\$3 and dictionary and document	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2008/02/26 08:31

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L10	3	complet\$3 with (input or entry or expression or string) same (quantity or number or amount or weight or size or price or measur\$5 or numerical) and extract\$3 and dictionary with (frequen\$4 or co\$occurrence or occurrence) and document and dictionary with attribute and document and pars\$4 and (database or storage or collection or repository)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2008/02/26 08:52
L11	10	complet\$3 with (input or entry or expression or string) and (quantity or number or amount or weight or size or price or measur\$5 or numerical) and extract\$3 and dictionary with (frequen\$4 or co\$occurrence or occurrence) and document and dictionary with attribute and document and pars\$4 and (database or storage or collection or repository)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2008/02/26 08:52
L12	10	complet\$3 with (input or entry or expression or string) and extract\$3 and dictionary with (frequen\$4 or co\$occurrence or occurrence) and document and dictionary with attribute and document and pars\$4 and (database or storage or collection or repository)	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2008/02/26 08:55
L13	2	"6651220".pn.	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2008/02/26 09:04
L14	1	completing with expression and attribute with dictionary and prefix and co\$occurrence with dictionary and pars\$3 and document	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2008/02/26 09:16



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L16	13	expression and attribute with dictionary and prefix and (frequenc\$3 or occurrence or count) \with dictionary and pars\$3 and document	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2008/02/26 09:16
L17	16	(entry or input or string or expression) and attribute with dictionary and prefix and (frequenc\$3 or occurrence or count) with dictionary and pars\$3 and document	US-PGPUB; USPAT; USOCR; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	OR	ON	2008/02/26 09:17